
This summary is of a bill that was vetoed by the Governor and may be reconsidered by the General Assembly prior to final adjournment of the 2021–2022 legislative session. This summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly; it provides a general summary of the bill and may not be exhaustive. This summary has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly and is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

H. 505 (Vetoed). Criminal law; regulated drugs; Vermont Sentencing Commission

This bill would have repealed the law that provides higher criminal penalties for trafficking crack than for trafficking powder cocaine. The bill also would have established the Drug Use Standards Advisory Board within the Vermont Sentencing Commission composed of experts in the fields of general and mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and drug user communities to determine the benchmark personal use dosage and the benchmark personal use supply for each regulated and unregulated drug with a goal of preventing and reducing the criminalization of personal drug use. After receiving the recommendations of the Board, the Sentencing Commission would have made recommendations to the General Assembly regarding adjustments in the amounts for possession, dispensing, and sale of regulated drugs and a proposal for combining the heroin and fentanyl statutes if recommended by the Board.

Vetoed by the Governor: May 19, 2022

Effective Date: Not applicable